

In the Claims:

Please allow the amendment of claims 1, 14, 16, and 20 to put the application in condition for allowance.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for automatic airflow damping, the apparatus comprising:

an enclosure configured for positive air pressure and comprising an orifice configured to pass air, the orifice disposed in a vertical plane of an outer wall of the enclosure;

an orifice cover configured to pivot about a lower edge and having an open position configured to permit airflow through the orifice wherein the orifice cover is horizontally disposed and a closed position wherein the orifice cover is vertically disposed and configured to block airflow from exiting through the orifice while the orifice cover is in the closed position;

a cover actuator configured to move the orifice cover from the open position to the closed position in response to removal of an air moving device; and

a seal disposed on the orifice cover and comprising a layer of elastomeric material and configured to block airflow between the enclosure and the orifice cover while in the closed position and allowing the orifice cover to pivot to the open position.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover actuator is a spring.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the spring is a torsion spring.
4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the orifice cover is a plate.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a vent configured to pass air.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover is further configured with a mechanical hinge.
11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the air-moving device is configured to force air through the orifice.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the air moving device is a fan.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the air moving device is a blower.
14. (Currently amended) An apparatus for automatic airflow damping, the apparatus comprising:

means for passing air through an orifice disposed in a vertical plane of outer wall of an enclosure in order to cool electronic components in the enclosure, the enclosure configured for positive air pressure;

means for obstructing the orifice;

means for moving ~~the obstructing means~~an orifice cover from an open position wherein the obstructing means is horizontally disposed to a closed position wherein the obstructing means is vertically disposed in response to removal of an air moving device associated with the orifice; and

means for blocking airflow around the ~~obstructing means~~orifice cover while in the closed position using a layer of elastomeric material and allowing the ~~obstructing means~~orifice cover to pivot to the open position, wherein the blocking means is disposed on the obstructing means.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method for automatic airflow damping, the method comprising:

passing air through an orifice in an enclosure in order to cool electronic components in the enclosure, the enclosure configured for positive air pressure and the orifice disposed in a vertical plane of an outer wall of the enclosure;

moving an orifice cover about a lower edge from an open position wherein the orifice cover is horizontally disposed to a closed position wherein the orifice cover is vertically disposed in response to removal of an air moving device associated with the orifice; and

sealing between the enclosure and the orifice cover to block airflow between the enclosure and the orifice cover while in the closed position and allowing the orifice cover to move to the open position using a seal disposed on the orifice cover.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein passing air through an orifice comprises blowing air into the enclosure.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein passing air through an orifice comprises exhausting air from the enclosure.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising blocking airflow through the orifice.

20. (Currently amended) A system utilizing automatic airflow damping, the system comprising:
a plurality of electronic components;

an enclosure configured to enclose the plurality of electronic components and maintain positive air pressure, the enclosure comprising an orifice configured to pass air, the orifice disposed in a vertical plane of an outer wall of the enclosure;

the orifice cover configured to pivot about a lower edge and having an open position configured to permit airflow through the orifice wherein the orifice cover is horizontally disposed and a closed position wherein the orifice cover is vertically disposed and configured to block airflow from exiting through the orifice;

a cover actuator comprising a motor and configured to move the orifice cover from the open position to the closed position in response to removal of an air moving device; and

a seal disposed on the orifice cover and comprising a layer of elastomeric material and configured to block airflow between the enclosure and the orifice cover while in the closed position and allowing the orifice cover to pivot to the open position.